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To: MayorEmail; president@rhvaa.org

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Subject: Folks is not a further discussion of the Reid Hillview Airport Closure just a waste of more time and tax dollars

I am not saying that is not fodder for a far distant future discussion and if the City of San Jose's Envision Task Force is putting together a 50 year plan and this is a topic for and event that could occur in 50 years.... Well so be it... But discussing this as an assumption for today is ludicrous since the county has dumped millions of dollars into studies that all come back with the conclusion that the property is no and will be for the future, the best use of the specific land.

Let's couple this fact with a few others...

1. Closure of the airport will create for the most part, yet another superfund site.... The hazmat mitigation costs will be staggering and no developer that has a brain will want to take that on.... Much like the result the city ran into after sinking hundreds of thousands into a plan to develop the current SJFD training center... only to find out that thanks to years of fuel spillage and Southern Pacific specific contamination, the property was only suited to remain capped with asphalt and that the current use was pretty much all that it would be good for.... A couple hundred million in Hazmat mitigation costs is not money the county will ever have

The city got the property for free, or then did they...? Much like the county got the airport for free

2. Repayment of FAA Grant Assurances in the 100's of millions of dollars is just not something that will ever be in the county's budget
3. And then there is the potentially sticky wicket of the original Grant Deed from the Elder Mr. Reid that stated that the land was granted to the county under the contractual obligation that it be held open as a public use airport for a minimum of 100 years.... And if the county wanted to close it prior to that time the land would have to be sold at fair market value and 100% of the proceeds would need to be turned over to the current heirs of the Reid family....

the grant deed requirements alone pretty much negates any perceived value of closing the airport prior to the expiration of the required 100 years from date of the original grant, So why is this turning into a topic for discussion again today.... I object to any waste of resources that go toward beating this dead horse yet another time.

4. And the topic of fighting the costly legal battles to rid the county of all the contracted long term tenants from the property, buying out leases, etc... just another reason piled on the negative side of any closure discussions. We have not even added in the costs associated with fighting the battles with the various aviation organizations like the AOPA, GAMA, NBAA all of which will bear considerable legal and financial weight to bear in any effort to close this important regional transportation asset.

For me, as a taxpayer, business owner, non-political outside observer in this city, I would hope the City of San Jose's Envision Task Force will be directed to focus on things that can actually benefit the citizens and interests of San Jose and not follow the circle of county dollars that have been flushed down the drain continuing these fruitless Anti Airport planning discussions...

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